

# Centennial HIGHLIGHTS

Celebrating 100 Years of Service



Dear Lions and Leos,

While we called it our Centennial Celebration, celebrating was not nearly enough to honor the first 100 years of Lions Clubs International. We also committed ourselves to lead through service, invite for impact and connect with our communities around the world. It has been thrilling to see how Lions and Leos have embraced that commitment throughout the four years of our Centennial Celebration.

The Centennial Service Challenge placed our motto, We Serve, into action as never before, with a goal of serving 100 million people through youth, vision, hunger, environment and diabetes projects. Not only did we achieve our goal, we more than doubled it, serving over 246 million people! That shows how Lions handle a challenge.

Our Centennial Membership Awards inspired us to invite new members and start new clubs to grow our incredible organization and extend our mission of service. Lions Clubs International now has hundreds of thousands of new members and thousands of new clubs to provide even greater benefits to humanity.

Our Legacy Projects have connected us more than ever to our communities. They provide not only real value, but also a visible reminder of the contributions that Lions make. With more than 31,000 Legacy Projects completed, the members of our communities will continue to benefit for years to come.

I invite you to enjoy the examples on the following pages of Lions and Leos celebrating our anniversary. From building a park for children with disabilities in South Carolina to building a suspension bridge to connect two villages in Indonesia, I am inspired by all the ways we build a better world when We Serve.

On behalf of the Executive Officers and the Centennial Action Committee members who served during our Centennial Celebration, I thank you for your role in our many achievements. I know that with Lions and Leos like you, Lions Clubs International will continue to be the greatest humanitarian organization in the world throughout our next century of service.

Sincerely,

J. Frank Moore III

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Former International President and Centennial Action Committee Chairperson

#### Constitutional Area 1 USA



#### Lions Centennial Bus Tour

Centennial President Bob Corlew shared our celebration across 20 states and two Canadian provinces on a Lions Centennial Bus Tour in the fall of 2016. Lions and Leos around the world followed the tours on social media. Throughout the tour, President Corlew met with club members and civic leaders, inducted new members, chartered clubs, and participated in Lions service projects.



#### A Recreational and Learning Park

Lions have a long history of support for the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind. Sixty-one Lions Clubs in South Carolina raised over US\$100,000 to match a US\$100,000 Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) grant and collaborated with other community partners to create a playground specially designed for these children to enjoy playing together.



#### New Vision Centre in Jamaica

The Lions Club of Montego Bay partnered with the Canadian Vision Care Volunteers/Red Deer Central Lions Club, the Ministry of Health and the Brenda Strafford Foundation to open a new Vision Clinic in Albion Montego Bay, where people receive glaucoma and cataract examinations and prescription eye glasses.

### Walks for Childhood > Cancer Research

Ohio Lions are fighting pediatric cancer, one step at a time, by hosting walks and participating in fundraisers. Together they raised US\$25,000 for the Cincinnati, Toledo, Cleveland, Akron, Columbus and Dayton Children's Hospitals, and priceless awareness of the need to support children with cancer.



#### Constitutional Area 2 Canada



Mount Cheam Lions Club partnered with the Steller's Jay Lions Club to raise \$600,000, and LCIF provided a matching grant for the purchase of cataract surgical equipment at Chilliwack General Hospital. More than 5,300 surgeries take place annually at the center with people traveling up to 400 miles to receive treatment.



#### Westbank Lions Community Centre

Lions devoted countless hours to maintain this community meeting place for more than 40 years. When the building was recently damaged by fire, Lions rebuilt and enlarged the facility, then made it a Centennial gift to the City of West Kelowna, where it serves more than 35,000 people.

#### Buddy Benches for School Children

A buddy bench is a place where children who feel left out, lonely, or bullied can sit to signal that they would like to talk or be invited to play. The Edmonton Southgate Lions Club, assisted by students and teachers, assembled 80 buddy benches for schools across their city to support students' emotional wellbeing.



#### The Jarvis Lions Walking Trail

Lions in Jarvis, Ontario raised funds to construct a 1.1 kilometer (0.68 mile) paved walking trail for their community. Club members planted trees and installed solar lighting and benches with the Lions International logo along the trail. The trail is used by all ages and enhances the recreational opportunities of residents and visitors.

#### Constitutional Area 3 FOLAC



#### Extended Flood Relief in Paraguay

Eighteen months after devastating floods struck Paraguay, local Lions finished repairs on five primary schools that were destroyed by flood waters, enabling 1,725 students to return to school. LCIF provided emergency relief immediately after the flood and continued to provide funding for long-term community reconstruction needs.

### Lions Run for Children

To benefit an educational activity center for children with disabilities and autism, Lions throughout District O4 worked for more than a year to host a marathon with 500 runners. T-shirts were distributed to illustrate Lions International's support of children and the Centennial Celebration.



Leos and Lions in Latin America and the Caribbean came together to alleviate hunger as part of the Centennial Service Challenge. More than 800 clubs and nearly 13,000 Leos from 17 countries participated, collecting food donations from community members and distributing the food to vulnerable families.



### Centennial Monoliths Nationwide

A Lion and architect created this design to unify Lions across Argentina with a shape that represents their county. These Lions Centennial monoliths have been installed by districts and clubs from the north to the south, in squares and other visible locations, drawing public, media, and social media attention to the legacy of Lions Clubs.

#### Constitutional Area 4 Europa

#### Spaces for Youth in Need to Live & Play

Netherland Lions, in cooperation with Foundation Forgotten Child, are providing Magic Gardens (for young children) and Chill Inns and Outs (for older youth) in every one of their districts. Over €620,000 was raised for this national gift, which will transform playing and living environments for 50,000 young people.



We Run – We Serve A



Promoting WE SERVE with every step, several Lions from Poland have run every year of the Centennial Celebration, collecting funds for children in need. In 2017, they ran from Helen Keller's hometown in Alabama to the Lions Clubs International headquarters in Illinois. With 1,000 co-runners, they have collected US\$70,000, benefitting more than 1,000 children in seven countries.



The Tour of Italy lasts for 21 days and crosses much of the country. Italian Lions and Leos were present at stops in 46 communities, inviting spectators to participate in diabetes screening tests. A Lions Clubs car was also part of the tour's race caravan, which was seen by millions of spectators along the route.



As part of their Centennial Celebration, Lions from France, Italy, and Switzerland decided to meet at the top of Mont Blanc, the highest summit in Europe. The climbers set out on Lions Clubs' 100th birthday, June 7, 2017 and reached the peak two days later. A celebratory festival followed in Courmayeur, Italy.



#### Constitutional Area 5 OSEAL

#### School Vegetable and Fish Farm

In the Philippines, Lions, school staff, students and parents worked together to build a vegetable and fish farm. A seminar was also provided so the school community would develop the skills needed to maintain and continue benefiting from their farm.



#### Building a School in Record Time

District 334-B donated an elementary school with solar power to a village in Myanmar. The school was constructed in only six months and is much appreciated by the people of the village. Lions shared their joy with a sense of accomplishment for taking on the challenge of raising over \(\frac{\pma}{2}\)2 million to make this gift to the community.

#### Vision Screening in Taiwan

The first Sharing the Vision month during the Centennial Celebration was October 2014. Knowing vision problems can hinder a child's ability to perform well in school, the Keelung Hsin I Lions Club in Taiwan organized a vision screening that month for local children – a great example of how Lions and Leos show they care every day.

#### A Dormitory for Future Leaders >

The organization 40th anniversary

Students who walked for up to four hours to attend school, or relied on unsafe transportation, now have a place near their school to stay, thanks to the Lions of Korea, Kota Kinabalu Host Lions Club in Malaysia and LCIF. Not only can students spend more time studying, they also receive healthy meals and can join in extracurricular activities.



#### Constitutional Area 6 ISAAME



#### Rebuilding after an Earthquake

There are many immediate humanitarian needs when an earthquake strikes. Lions continue giving until a community is restored. After the Ridvan Academy school building was damaged in a devastating earthquake, the Kathmandu Laligurans Lions Club donated a new sixroom school house for the community's children.

#### A Second Eye Care Hospital for Club

Centennial President Dr. Naresh Aggarwal inaugurated the Siliguri Greater Lions Shri Vidya Sagar Oswal Eye Hospital & Training Institute in 2017. This is the second flagship project of the Siliguri Greater Lions Club, who opened their first hospital over 30 years ago. Supported by LCIF, the new 100-bed facility greatly expands eye care for the people of east India.

### Lions Flag on Top of Mount Everest

Sir Edmund Hillary, a New Zealand Lion, and Nepalese Sherpa mountaineer Tenzing Norgay were the first climbers confirmed to have reached the summit of Mount Everest. In 2017, Pema Sherpa and Pemba Ongchuk Sherpa each unfurled the Lions Flag at the top of the world, honoring the history of Lions International. This activity was coordinated by Mr. Jamling Norgay, son of Mr. Tensing Norgay.



and blood bank for a hospital in Ognaj, India. The Ahmedabad Karnavati Lions Club, in partnership with the State Bank of India, gave those suffering from kidney failure a new treatment center in the hospital with 10 kidney dialysis machines as part of their Centennial celebration.

#### Constitutional Area 6 Africa



#### Electronics Recycling

Seven Lions Clubs in Egypt, the Middle East, and Africa are preserving our environment for future generations by collecting electronic waste, refurbishing equipment that can be reused, and safely disposing the remainder in proper landfills. Eight of the computers produced from this project are being used in Lions' classrooms.



Lives in Tunisia

Lions donated a medical resuscitation unit to the pediatric ward of the Charles Nicolle hospital in Tunis. This resuscitation unit will save the lives of children suffering from conditions like renal or liver failure in the northern region of Tunisia, which has a population of 5 million.

#### Lions for Rhinos

It is estimated that only 28,000 rhinos still live in the world. If rhinoceros poaching continues at the current rate, the last rhino in the wild will disappear within the next 15 years. The MD 410 Lions have launched an international marketing campaign to raise awareness of the plight of rhinos and help end the poaching of these majestic animals.





#### Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy

In people with diabetes, high blood sugar can damage blood vessels in the retina, leading to vision loss, even blindness. The Casa Anfa Lions Club, in partnership with LCIF, donated medical laser equipment, so 20 people per day can be treated for diabetic retinopathy.

#### Constitutional Area 7 ANZI



#### Lions Tree Grove

District 202L and the Ngongotaha Lions Club set out to create an oasis of New Zealand native plants. With dedicated hard work and supporting donations, they planted more than 6,000 trees and bushes, and added park benches and grassy spaces. This ongoing heritage project will be a pleasure for residents and visitors for many years to come.

### OUR CENTENNIAL STORIES

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



#### Our Centennial Stories

For 100 years Lions have shared a core belief that community is what we make it. Lions clubs across Australia donated more than \$100,000 to over 100 local projects to celebrate this belief. The Community 100 program brought clubs together across Australia and strengthened local relationships. An ebook, Our Centennial Stories, was created to document the humanitarian service provided.

### Diabetes Awareness > Campaign

Lions took up the fight against diabetes in a big way in Indonesia, where 47 clubs held simultaneous diabetes awareness programs, serving more than 10,000 people. Activities included blood sugar testing and seminars about preventing, controlling and treating diabetes. Attendees also participated in physical exercise to support healthy lifestyles.



This suspension bridge was built by Lions Club Bandung Raya in cooperation with The Vertical Rescue. It connects two villages over a river in West Java, Indonesia. The next nearest crossing not only takes more than an hour, but becomes unusable in the rainy season when the river overflows. More than 1,000 people cross this bridge every day, a symbol of Lions' dedication to connecting people though humanitarian service.



## OUR SECOND CENTURY OF SERVICE

For 100 years, the Lions Clubs International mission of service has brought light into countless lives. Our Centennial torches, which inspired Lions and Leos around the globe, are now a shining display at our worldwide headquarters.



The inscription reads, "Lighting the way to our second century of service."

Our five-year strategy, LCI Forward, builds on the success of our Centennial Celebration. Supported by Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), LCI Forward is strengthening our organization and will empower Lions and Leos to serve 200 million people, not across a span of four years, but every year.

So be proud of your contributions to our Centennial Celebration. Together, our achievements have made our organization ready to serve humanity in the century to come.



"I hope there will always be a Land of Beyond for Lions International, a goal that will keep growing larger and larger as we approach it, yet will keep just out of reach, challenging us to run faster, work harder, think bigger, give more."

Melvin Jones Founder, Lions Clubs International